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August 23, 1994

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EIU ALUMNI REPORT SATISFACTION WITH JOBS, EDUCATION

CHARLESTON -- Survey results showing that a majority of Eastern Illinois University alumni earning bachelor's degrees in 1988 are employed in full-time jobs related to their degrees and believe they were trained well for their careers depict the positive outlook of Eastern's alumni.

The five-years-out baccalaureate survey, conducted in cooperation with the Illinois Board of Higher Education, asked 13 questions related to employment, further education and satisfaction with the undergraduate experience.

The survey reports that 88 percent of the nearly 840 respondents are employed full-time in positions in business, education and government, and most are in positions "closely related" or "related" to their degrees. Six percent are employed part-time, 3 percent are not employed, but are looking for jobs, and the remaining 3 percent are not employed and are not seeking employment.

The largest single working group (22 percent) are earning between \$25,000-\$29,999 annually, with 51 percent earning between \$25,000-\$39,999 annually. More than half have held two different jobs since graduation. They are

-more-

"very satisfied" or "satisfied" with their jobs.

Nearly all of the respondents -- 96 percent -- have a "strongly positive" or "positive" attitude toward Eastern in general. A large number -- 88 percent -- believe the university trained them "very well" or "well" for their careers. They also have positive regard for their undergraduate degree majors.

In addition, 20 percent of those surveyed have obtained a variety of graduate degrees since 1988.

"The positive opinions about the university expressed by the graduates surveyed speak well of our ability to provide quality education and to prepare our students for the challenges of the real world," said Eastern President David Jorns.

"Graduates," he added, "are the very best sources of information as to the quality, strengths and weaknesses of Eastern's programs. We are convinced that the real test of an education comes when it is used, over time, directly and indirectly, by an active member of society."